

Richard E. D'Aquin, Chair

William T. Roberts, Jr., Vice Chair

Roland M. Toups, Secretary

E. Joseph Savoie
Commissioner of Higher Education



BOARD OF REGENTS

*150 Third Street, Suite 129
Baton Rouge, LA 70801-1389
Phone (225) 342-4253
FAX (225) 342-9318
www.regents.state.la.us*

Member

*Herschel L. Abbott, Jr.
William "Billy" Blake
Scott O. Brame
Reggie Dupré
Frances T. Henry
Robert Levy
Virgil Robinson, Jr.
Norbert A. Simmons
William Clifford Smith
Pat A. Strong
Steven P. Johnson
Student*

September 26, 2001

NOTE: See last two paragraphs relative to press conference at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

REGENTS' COMMITTEE APPROVES ACTIVE DUTY POLICY FOR MILITARY CALL UP

BATON ROUGE -- A statewide policy regarding the military mobilization and activation of students attending Louisiana's public colleges and universities currently serving in the reserve forces of the U.S. Armed Services and in the Louisiana National Guard was updated by a Board of Regents' committee today.

"In this critical time for our country, we want our student soldiers to have an easy-to-follow statewide system that enables them to respond to the nation's call to service and also to return to their academic pursuits in the future," said Commissioner of Higher Education E. Joseph Savoie. "That is what this policy is designed to do. We have a responsibility to look out for their welfare and a responsibility to make this transition as easy as possible."

Specifically, the policy details notification procedures as well as options for the awarding of academic credit, refund guidelines, the handling of textbooks, scholarships and student housing for those who must interrupt their current academic pursuits because of military service. In addition, the policy outlines re-enrollment procedures.

This joint policy was adopted by the Board of Regents and higher education management boards in 1991. It was revised today to include the newly created Louisiana Community and Technical College System, which is expected to adopt the policy at its October board meeting.

Savoie said the current policy was shared with system and campus heads as well as student government presidents when the first announcements of activation and mobilization were made.

The policy was approved today by the Regents' Academic and Student Affairs Committee, whose members wore American flags on their lapels in a show of patriotism. The full board is expected to approve the policy change tomorrow (Thursday, Sept. 27).

The revised policy can be found on the Regents' website at www.regents.state.la.us (under Board Information).

Students who are receiving state or federal financial assistance, including TOPS, should contact their college or university financial aid office.

In other action, the Board of Regents is scheduled to hold a press conference at 9 a.m. tomorrow (Thursday, Sept. 27) to present official copies of the Regents' new Master Plan for Postsecondary Education to the governor's office and legislative leaders.

The new Master Plan creates a new admissions standards framework for all public four-year universities, fosters the development of the state's new community and technical college system, and adopts strong outreach initiatives at the middle and high school levels.

-30-